

Amendments to the Specification

Amend the paragraph starting on page 4, line 7 as follows:

a cooperating fastener component including at least a portion of a top surface of the first wing and the second wing such that the first and second wings can be interengaged by bringing a top and bottom surface of respective wings into an overlapping configuration;

Amend the paragraph starting on page 6, line 3 as follows:

FIG. 2B' representatively shows a top view of the engagement member of Fig. 2B ~~[[3B]]~~;

Amend the paragraph starting on page 6, line 6 as follows:

FIG. 2C' representatively shows a top view of the engagement member of Fig. 2C ~~[[3C]]~~;

Amend the paragraph starting on page 7, line 5 as follows:

With reference to the Figures, an article, such as a sanitary napkin 10 illustrated in FIGS. 1A-D has a lengthwise, longitudinal direction 26, a lateral cross-direction 24, and a longitudinally extending medial line 40. The article includes a first article portion, a second article portion and at least one fastener 36 for securing the first article portion to the second article portion. Such securement can, for example, be configured to thereby hold the article on a wearer. The fastener includes at least one, first fastener component 70 attached to an appointed section of the first and second article portion, and a cooperating fastener component 72 attached to or integral with the first and second article portion. The first fastener component 70 includes an engagement section having a first plurality of engagement members 56. Each As is shown in FIGS. 2A-2E each engagement member 56 has a stem portion 58 with a distal end region 44, and has at least one securement element 60 disposed at its corresponding distal end region. The plurality of engagement members has an arrangement pattern of their securement elements. It is contemplated that multiple pluralities of engagement members, each with different arrangement pattern of their securement elements, may be used.

Amend the paragraph starting on page 7, line 20 as follows:

Another aspect of the invention can provide an article in which the fastener component may include an engagement section having a plurality of non-isotropic engagement members. As is shown in FIGS. 2A-2E, each ~~Each~~ non-isotropic engagement member can have a stem portion 58 with a distal end portion 44, and a direction-dependent securement element 60 which is non-isotropically disposed

at the distal end region of its corresponding stem portion 58 to provide a non-isotropic engagement opening. The plurality of non-isotropic engagement members can have an alignment pattern of their engagement openings. It is contemplated that multiple pluralities of non-isotropic engagement members may be used and that different alignment patterns of their engagement openings are possible.

Amend the paragraph starting on page 8, line 25 as follows:

In some embodiments, the wing may be formed partially or entirely of the cooperating fastener component 72 as shown by, for example, FIGS. 1B, 1D, ~~[[1D']]~~ and 1E. FIG. 1C is an illustration of the sanitary napkin with its wings 36 or flaps secured around an undergarment or panty ~~[[“P”]]~~ P. The arrows labeled ~~[[“A”]]~~ A generally represent the attachment direction. The arrows labeled ~~[[“O”]]~~ O generally represent the direction that is orthogonal to the attachment direction. It should be understood that this orthogonal direction is thought to be generally or substantially along or in the plane of the article although in some specific cases, it includes a minor Z-direction component.

Amend the paragraph starting at page 9, line 20 as follows:

The following is a brief description of the orientation direction with respect to the lengthwise, longitudinal direction 26 and the lateral cross-wise direction depicted in FIGS. 1A, and 1D ~~and 1D'~~. In one exemplary sanitary napkin, the orientation of the axis of maximal engagement of the first fastener component in the attachment direction meant orienting the first fastener component so its axis of maximal engagement was in the cross-machine direction or the lateral cross-direction 24 shown in FIGS. 1A, and 1D ~~and 1D'~~. Thus, for that sanitary napkin, the orientation of the axis of maximal engagement of the first fastener component generally orthogonal to the attachment direction meant orienting the first fastener component so its axis of maximal engagement was in the machine direction or the lengthwise, longitudinal direction 26 shown in FIGS. 1A, and 1D ~~and 1D'~~. Also shown in FIG. 1D is the backsheet or baffle B of the exemplary sanitary napkin and a peel strip PS, which protects the garment adhesive (GA shown in FIG. 1F) prior to use. Optionally, one or both of the wings may have perforation lines 71 adjacent its fixed end to provide quick removal of the napkin by tearing the wing along the perforation lines 71, as shown in FIGS. 1D and 1E.

Amend the paragraph starting at page 10, line 3 as follows:

When the wings of the article are secured around the crotch portion of an undergarment generally as depicted in FIG. 1C and as shown in cross-sectional view in FIG. 1F, the wings are adapted to hold, secure, attach or join the sanitary napkin or incontinence pad (or similar article) to an undergarment. As shown in FIG. 1F, the sanitary napkin or incontinence pad or similar article may

have a topsheet T, a backsheet or baffle B and an absorbent AB positioned between topsheet T and backsheet B. In addition, a first fastener component including a plurality of engagement members is presented directly against the fabric of the undergarment such that they are adapted to engage the fabric of the undergarment to also help hold, secure, attach or join the sanitary napkin or incontinence pad (or similar article) to the undergarment.

Amend the paragraph starting at page 13, line 16 as follows:

With reference to ~~Figs. 2A-E~~ FIGS. 2A-2C', the appointed first fastener component 70 can include a material having engagement members (e.g. the shown hook members) which project away from a base or substrate layer 110. Each engagement member includes a generally, up-standing stem portion 58 and a securement element 60. The stem portion 58 has a fixed end region 43, and a distal end region 44 which, desirably, is contiguously joined with the fixed end region. The fixed end region of the stem portion is operably attached to the substrate layer 110, and the distal end region is operably attached to its corresponding, associated securement element 60. The stem portion 58 is sufficiently rigid to maintain the appointed upright positioning and the appointed directional alignment of the securement element 60 during the ordinary operation of the first fastener component in the fastener system. More particularly, the stem portion is sufficiently resistant to bending and twisting to operably maintain the desired upright positioning and directional alignment of the securement element. The substrate layer 110 has a substrate thickness 112, an engagement member surface 114, and an opposed substrate mounting surface 116. The selected engagement members are attached to the substrate layer 110, and project away from the engagement member surface 114.

Amend the paragraph starting at page 14, line 23 as follows:

An example of a suitable micro-hook material is distributed under the designations VELCRO HTH 829 and VELCRO HTH 851 and is available from VELCRO U.S.A., Inc., a business having offices in Manchester, New Hampshire. VELCRO HTH 851 micro-hook material is shown in photomicrographs in FIGS. 5A and 5B ~~2A and 2-B~~. FIG. 5A ~~[[2A]]~~ is a top view (linear magnification of 45X) of the micro-hook material showing an example of the relative distribution of individual engagement members or elements. FIG. 5B ~~[[2B]]~~ is a perspective view (linear magnification of 50X) showing an example of the angled engagement members or hook elements. The micro-hook material can have hooks in the shape of angled hook elements, and can be configured with a hook density of about 264 hooks per square centimeter (about 1700 hooks per square inch); a hook height which is within the range of about 0.030 - 0.063 cm (about 0.012 - 0.025 inch); and a hook width which is within

the range of about 0.007 to 0.022 cm (about 0.003 to 0.009 inch). The hook elements are molded onto a base layer substrate having a thickness of about 0.0076 - 0.008 cm (about 0.003 - 0.0035 inch), and the member of hook material has a Gurley stiffness of about 12 mgf (about 12 Gurley units). Other suitable hook materials can include VELCRO HTH 858 and VELCRO HTH 863 hook materials.